

**SPACE**

From 1A

heard of the disaster. However, he said the words the President spoke at the memorial service on Tuesday encouraged him.

"I know they [President's words] were comforting to the families," he said.

He said he also thought the recounting of the victims' stories during the service showed how close the flight units at NASA are.

Rev. Jeff Hensley, of Kings Mountain Baptist Church, said that they remembered the victims and their families during their prayer time on Sunday morning. One young adult Sunday School class discussed the event extensively, he said.

"I think the majority of our people were shocked still," he said. The older generations remembered the Challenger disaster as well, he said. He said the shuttle disaster was just another blow to the people who were already struggling with the fact that the United States may go to war with Iraq. He said he had a couple people express anger at some people in the Arab world who might have seen the event as a sign from Allah.

More people will begin to talk about it now that the memorial service is over, he said. He said the hospitalized members that he visited on Tuesday were glued to the service on television.

While the nation is in mourning for the seven astronauts who were killed in the accident, local elementary and high school counselors said that few children have confided in them about the event.

"We really haven't done anything special for the shuttle. We left it up to the teachers if they needed me or if the kids needed me. There really wasn't a concern. They just handled it in the classroom," said Grace Costner, counselor at East Elementary School.

"Honestly I haven't had any come by and see me about it," said Leigh Bell, counselor at Kings Mountain High School. She said another counselor, Shelby Bert, had had students make comments about the tragedy to her but none who seemed distraught or who needed counseling.

If a child were to need counseling about the tragedy, Bell said she would talk with them and then let the parents know that their child was upset about the situation.

**LITTER**

From 1A

said, although nothing has been scheduled yet.

The city has been lucky because the mayor of Gastonia, Jenny Stultz, serves on the national board, where she goes around and helps people set up branches of the organization, said Murphrey. Stultz has been able to help the Kings Mountain branch get started, he said.

As part of the ongoing program, Ellis Noell, the city's special events director and a member of the Keep Kings Mountain Beautiful project, said he would like to get local garden clubs and civic groups involved in the effort. He said he would also like to see a recycling area placed at all of the city's events.

"If there's a way to keep things out of landfills, so much the better," he said.

Currently, the city does not have a recycling program, although Murphrey said the city would discuss it again in the next budget review. Last year, the city looked at recycling and decided

against it because of the cost at the time. The city would probably need to do curbside recycling in order

to have a successful program, he said.

"I think it's important to recycle. Our landfills are

getting filled up," said Murphrey. "We all know to protect our environment, we've got to do something about recycling."

The city has to pay for the amount of garbage that goes to the landfill, he said.

Reducing the amount of trash that goes to the landfill would save money which could be better spent in recycling.

Noell stressed that the Keep Kings Mountain Beautiful project was not a group that walked down the street to pick up trash. He said the group was looking at litter prevention policies, recycling, and ways to beautify the city as well.

"We want a healthy environment," he said.

Keep America Beautiful is a nonprofit organization dedicated to community improvement, litter prevention, and beautification. Currently the organization has almost 500 affiliates. Kings Mountain is working to become certified by the organization.

For more information or to get involved in the Keep Kings Mountain Beautiful project, call Ellis Noell at 704-730-2103.



**OBITUARIES**

**LINDA HILDEBRAN HICKORY** - Linda Raye Leonhardt Hildebran, 53, Costner Road, died Friday, January 31, 2003 at her home after a period of declining health.

She was born January 8, 1950 in Cleveland County to Betty Lipps Leonhardt of Vale and the late Elmer Louico Leonhardt.

A devoted, caring mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, friend and wife, Linda was known for her tremendous smile and amazing ability to calm the storms of life. She was always patient, tender, and full of love for all she came in contact with. She was ever ready to give and never spoke a harsh word. Her love for Christ and desire to see others saved shone in her smile and was reflected in her words and action.

She was a member of the Hickory Seventh-Day Adventist Church where she was a Deaconess, former community service director, assisted with Sabbath School classes, Vacation Bible School and numerous other activities. She was employed at the Honest 'n' Goodness Vegetarian restaurant in Hickory for 24 years. She was presently employed as a nanny for Bill and Brandi Goliber of Foothills Chiropractic.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by a nephew, Eric Leonhardt.

Surviving, in addition to

her mother, are her husband, Harold Wayne Hildebran of the home; two daughters, Natasha Perez and husband Carlos, of the home; Charlinda Price and husband, Kortney of Connelly Sorings; four brothers, Roger, Keith, David and Jonathan Leonhardt, all of Vale; two sisters, Gail Morrison of Vale and Deborah Gantt of Casar; two grandchildren, Sean Alan Hildebran and Somer Jean Price and a number of nieces and nephews.

The funeral was conducted February 2, 2003 at 2 p.m. at Hickory Seventh-Day Adventist Church by Pastor Ron Patterson and Elder Jim Bolch. Burial was in Bingham Evangelical Methodist Church Cemetery in Lawndale.

Memorials may be made to the William H. Johnson Church School, 172 23rd St., Hickory, NC 28601 or Hospice of Burke County, PO Box 1029, Valdese, NC 28690.

Heritage Funeral Service of Valdese was in charge of arrangements.

**ELLEN SORRELS** KINGS MOUNTAIN - Ellen S. Sorrels, 77, of 111 Monta Visa Dr., formerly of Rutherford County, died Tuesday, February 4, 2003 at home.

A native of Rutherford County, she was a daughter of the late Paul Jimerson Sorrells and Thelma May Sorrells and widow of Gene Sorrells. She was a member of First Baptist Church and

the Gleaners Sunday School Class, worked for Stonecutter Mills Corporation in the personnel department for 30 years and was also employed by Gaston County Mental Health until retirement. She was preceded in death by her sister, Mrs. Blanche Jackson of Louisville, Ky.

Surviving are two daughters, Rita S. Toney and husband Hubert of Kings Mountain and Jo Baldwin and husband Tommy of Ellenboro, a brother, Andrew Paul "Buddy" Sorrels and wife Betty of Clinton, TN and two sisters, Lucille Ticknor and husband Richard and Billie Sorrels of Clinton, TN; and grandchildren Mark and Audrey Toney, Tyler and Teresa Toney, Kent and Donna Baldwin and Heidi and Adam Moose and great-grandchildren, Cole and Jacob Baldwin, Brianna Moose and Allison Toney.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 6, 2003 at First Baptist Church with Dr. John "Chip" Sloan and Rev. Michael Chambers officiating. Visitation will follow the service in he church fellowship hall. There will be a private graveside service held for the family.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Drive, Shelby, NC 28150 or Gideons International, PO Box 834, Forest City, NC 28043. Padgett & King Mortuary

of Forest City is in charge of arrangements.

**LAYMOND CALDWELL SR.**

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Laymond Joseph Caldwell Sr., 48, 802 Princeton Dr., died Friday, January 31, 2003 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Mecklenburg County, son of the late Mattie Logan Caldwell. He was also preceded in death by a son, Joshua Floyd Caldwell and a sister, Gloria Caldwell Davis. He was a member of People's Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Jennie Floyd Caldwell of the home; his father, Frank Caldwell of Charlotte; two sons, Jason Floyd Caldwell and Laymond Joseph Caldwell Jr., both of Kings Mountain; two daughters, Paris Caldwell of Virginia Beach, Va. and Ebaney Caldwell Collins of Kings Mountain; three brothers, Franklin Caldwell, Steve Caldwell, and Sean Caldwell and wife, Ginna, all of Charlotte; one sister, Renee Caldwell McClure of Charlotte; and six grandchildren.

The graveside service was held Sunday, February 2, 2003 at 4 p.m. at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Rutherford-Cleveland Kidney Foundation, 1017 N. Washington St., Shelby, NC 28150.

Harris Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

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